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December 8, 2004

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Art Unit: 1638
Examiner: A.D. Mehta
Conf. No.: 5384

Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/669,817 filed September 26, 2000
Inventors: Joseph R. BYRUM *et al.*
Title: Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other Molecules Associated with Plants
Atty. Dkt: 16517.315

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) are the following documents:

1. Amendment After Final Rejection; and
2. Return postcard.

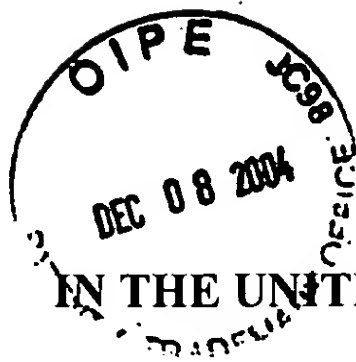
It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier.

In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned. Applicants do not believe any additional fees are due in conjunction with this filing. However, if any fees are required in the present application, including any fees for extensions of time, then the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Arnold & Porter LLP Deposit Account No. 50-2387, referencing docket number 16517.315.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas E. Holsten (Reg. No. 46,098)

Enclosures



In re Patent Application of:

Joseph R. BYRUM *et al.*

Appln. No.: 09/669,817

Filed: September 26, 2000

Confirmation No.: 5384

Art Unit: 1638

Examiner: Ashwin D. Mehta

Atty. Docket: 16517.315

Title: **Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other Molecules Associated with Plants**

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION

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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed October 8, 2004 ("Final Action"), Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.